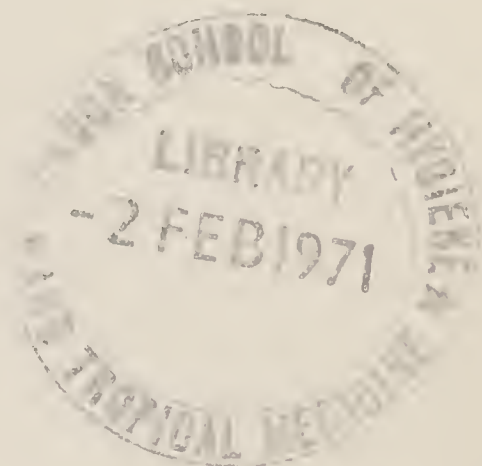


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W I V E N H O E U R B A N
D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
and
S U R V E Y O R a n d P U B L I C H E A L T H
I N S P E C T O R

F O R T H E Y E A R

1 9 6 8

1.

Lexden Grange,
Lexden Road,
Colchester.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and
Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1968.

I have to thank the members of the Council and the Council's staff
for their assistance during the year.

I have the honour to be,
Your Obedient Servant

S. MACMILLAN

Medical Officer of Health



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STAFF

Medical Officer of Health SYLVIA MACMILLAN, M.R.C.S., I.R.C.P., M.B.R.S., D.P.H.
Appointed 1st April 1966. (Time shared with two neighbouring Authorities, and the County Council).

Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. D.F. SWEETING, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.

Assistant to the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor. M.C. WALKER, A.R.S.H.

COMMITTEES CONCERNED WITH PUBLIC HEALTH

Public Health Committee - Chairman Councillor E. E. J. WESTLAKE.

Highways & Water Committee - Chairman Councillor W. SPARROW.

Housing Committee - Chairman Councillor T. M. ENDEAN.

Finance & General Purposes Committee - Chairman Councillor W. J. CRACKNELL.

Chairman of the Council - Councillor MISS B. A. GRASBY.

Clerk to the Council - W. TRICKETT, A.C.C.S.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (Acres)	1,493
Register General's estimate of mid-year resident population .. 1968	4,300
Number of inhabited houses (.. .. .)	1,516
Rateable Value	106,651
Sum represented by a penny rate	£463

The district is situated on the east bank of the river Colne where its waters are tidal. It is about four miles down the river from Colchester, and it is also on the main line from London to Clacton-on-Sea. Local industries are shipbuilding, general engineering, agriculture. It is also a small yachting and fishing centre. Half the working population find their employment outside the district.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
LIVE BIRTHS (all	60	38	98
(Legitimate	58	34	92
(Illegitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate live births as % of total live births			6.1%
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population			22.8%
Comparability factor			1.01
Corrected rate			23.03
England and Wales			16.9
	<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
STILL BIRTHS	1	0	1
Still birth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) babies			10
England and Wales			14
Total births (live and still births)			99
INFANTS DEATHS (all	3	0	3
(Legitimate	3	0	3
(Illegitimate	0	0	0
Under 1 year old	1	0	1
Under 4 weeks old	1	0	1
In first week old	1	0	1
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births			10
Legitimate infants deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			22
Infant mortality England and Wales			18
Perinatal mortality rate (still-births plus deaths during first week per 1,000 total live and still-births) England and Wales 25.4			20
Maternal deaths			0
Maternal mortality rate			0
Total deaths M - 14 F - 12 TOTAL - 26			
Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population			6.0
Comparability factor			1.14
Corrected death rate			3.42
England and Wales			11.9

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948/51

No action under this act was necessary.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

Pathological specimens are sent to the laboratory at the Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

Samples of water are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, when a bacteriological analysis is required, and to the counties Public Health Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London S.W.1., when a chemical or complete analysis is required.

Samples of food and ice cream etc., are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich.

Ambulance Facilities.

Non-emergency calls are not accepted from the general public.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency it is merely necessary to lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance.

If there is a dialling system in operation, dial "999" "0" or "01" and ask for ambulance.

HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL

Ante-Natal and post-natal clinics.	Vaccination and immunisation against
Maternity and child welfare services.	tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough,
Nursing in the home.	and measles.
Mental welfare	Provision of nursing equipment and
School Health Services.	apparatus.

Ante-Natal and post-natal clinics are held at the Central Health Services Clinic, East Lodge Court, High Street, Colchester at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Infant Welfare Clinics and Relaxation Classes are held at the Wivenhoe Public Hall, on first and third Tuesday at 1.45 p.m.

Family Planning Clinics is provided under the auspices of the Family Planning Association at the Health Services Clinic, Culver Street on Monday and Tuesday from 6.00 p.m. - 7.30 p.m.

Womans Welfare Clinic held at East Lodge Court at 10.00 a.m. 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month.

Assistance from the Home Help Service is obtained by communicating with the Area Organiser, East Lodge Court, High Street, Colchester. Telephone Colchester 79411/9.

REPORT OF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1. Mains Water Supply. The Tendring Hundred Waterworks Co., continued as the statutory undertaking responsible for the supply of water throughout the Council's district. From the reports below, for which I am indebted to their Chief Engineer Mr. W. A. Burrow, M.I.Mech., M.I.W.E., it will be readily be seen a wholesome supply has been given and it has been in sufficient quantity.

The amount of water supplied to Wivenhoe in the 12 months ended 31st December 1968, amounted to 64.536 million gallons, an average daily consumption of 0.176 million gallons. The total quantity taken for domestic purposes during the year was 41.509 million gallons, an average daily consumption of 0.113 million gallons. The total amount taken through trade meters was 23.027 million gallons, an average daily consumption of 0.063 million gallons.

The total number of connections (domestic and trade) made in the year to the Company's mains in the Urban District amounted to 22. Approximately 1,136 yards of new mains of 3" and 4" diameter have been laid in the Wivenhoe district during the year.

Bacteriological and Chemical Analyses.

Queens Road Pumping Station - 20th October, 1968.

Colour	NIL	Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.00
pH.	7.9	Metals (iron)	0.08
Electric Conductivity	1800	Turbidity	Less than 3
Chlorine present as		Odour	NIL
Chloride	420	Free Carbon Dioxide	7
Hardness. Total	120	Alkalinity and Calcium	
Carbonate	120	Carbonate	290
Non-Carbonate	0	Nitrite Nitrogen	ABSENT
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.2	Permanganate Value	0.10
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	1.4	Residual Chlorine	0.10

Bacteriological Results.

No. of Colonies	<u>1 day at 37°C</u>	<u>2 days at 37°C</u>	<u>3 days at 20°C</u>
Developing on Agar	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	0 per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable No.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes Reaction	0 ml.	100 ml.	0 per ml.
Bact. Coli (type I)	0 ml.	100 ml.	0 per ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	0 ml.	100 ml.	

Remarks. This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance, has a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and is free from metals apart from the very minute trace of iron. The hardness of the water is very moderate. The somewhat high content of mineral and saline constituents is typical of this source. The water conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results indicate a pure and wholesome water suitable for drinking and domestic uses. Its known content of fluoride is however greater than the amount considered most desirable (from the aspect of causing mottled enamel). A slight saline taste due to the content of sodium chloride may be noticeable to some consumers.

Dedham Pumping Station.

Colour	4	Turbidity	1.5
pH.	7.6	Odour	NIL
Electric Conductivity	925	Free Carbon Dioxide	14
Chlorine present as Chloride	133	Alkalinity as Calcium	
Hardness Total	290	Carbonate	260
Carbonate	260	Nitrite Nitrogen	ABSENT
Non-Carbonate	28	Oxygen absorbed	0.15
Nitrate Nitrogen	0.50	Residual Chlorine	0.20
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.50		
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.10		
Metals (iron)	0.15		

Bacteriological Results.

	<u>1 day at 37°C</u>	<u>2 days at 37°C</u>	<u>3 days at 20°C</u>
No. of Colonies developing on Agar	0 per ml.	0 per ml.	0 per ml.
	Present in	Absent from	Probable No.
Presumptive Coli-aerogenes reaction	0 ml.	100 ml.	0 per ml.
Bact. Coli (type 1)	0 ml.	100 ml.	0 per ml.
Cl. Welchii Reaction	0 ml.	100 ml.	

Remarks. These samples are practically clear and bright in appearance, have a reaction on the alkaline side of neutrality and are free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is hard in character but its hardness and its content of mineral and saline constituents in solution are no excessive. It conforms to the highest standard of organic quality and bacterial purity.

These results are indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome in character and suitable for public supply purposes.

In the early part of the year the low level water storage tank was filled but due to difficulties in making a water tight joint between the sub-ground concrete and the above ground Braitwaites Sections the tank was not brought into full commission until several months later.

2. Private Water Supplies. One property having a well supply of poor Bacterial quality has been connected to the mains supply during the year.
3. Sewer and Sewage. At the outfalls the renewals and alterations to the filter beds have been carried out giving increased dosage rate to the media, which is proving beneficial. Additional collecting drains have been laid down below the sludge drying beds and humus tank to collect liquor spillage which results not only after the filling of the sludge beds but due to seepages through the humus tank walls. Major repair works will be necessary to these walls if the works are to continue to be used.

In Rebow Road, the 6" sewer was traced and the terminal bend located at which a manhole has been constructed. A complete survey of the sewers of Belle Vue Road has been made by the Council's Consultants. Their report is awaited which will show their proposals for pumping the sewage from this area to the Wivenhoe Sewer - shutting down the Council's sewage disposal works.

During the year the Council were able to accept the Tendring R.D.C.'s request of several years standing, and the laying of an extension to the Queens Road sewer, by the R.D.C. to drain houses on their side of Anglesea Road situated above the railway. Properties below the railway have also been drained to the Council's sewer by means of a new sewer laid directly to the Wivenhoe Pumping Station. The Tendring R.D.C. have entered into an agreement with the U.D.C. for the Annual Payment for the treatment of the sewage at the U.D.C.'s disposal works.

Progress on Stages 2 and 3 of the Queens Road Estate has continued and the Pumping Station (less pumps etc.) and pumping main have been constructed.

4. Public Cleansing. The refuse tip has continued to give satisfactory facilities and further excavations for covering material now provides additional tipping area.

Approx 150ft. of land drainage has been laid to enable the lowering of ground levels to increase this tipping area within the main boundaries of the tip. Clothes drying facilities for the manual staff in the yard have been approved and orders given at the end of the year for the necessary work to be carried out.

On the 30th December a new Shelvoke and Drewry 20 yd. Pakamatic refuse collection vehicle was delivered to replace the 12yd. Karrier Fore and Aft Tipper.

5. Petroleum Storage. The number of registered premises remained the same as in 1967 but due to modernisation of one of the Petrol Filling Stations the registered gallonage increased considerably. Whilst works were being carried out at the filling station both the new and old tanks were tested and found to be satisfactory.

6. Movable Dwelling and House Boats. No action has been necessary in connection with either of these types of habitation.

7. Council House Maintenance. Normal routine repairs etc. have been carried out during the year but as the age of the properties increases so have the cost of repairs.

Improvements have been carried out at the Rosabelle Avenue and Parkwood Avenue garages by the construction of a footpath, proper vehicular entrances to the garages, the laying of grass verges and planting of ornamental trees.

8. Housing. The rate of building again dropped sharply (from 55 in 1967 to 30 dwellings this year) due largely to the restriction of development imposed last year by the Essex County Council in conjunction with the Tendring Waterworks Co. This restriction was however lifted at the end of the year and it is hoped that the building rate will soon rise to previous levels.

Phase I Rosabelle Avenue scheme was completed and the two terraces, each of 3 three bedroomed houses, were occupied in August. Phase II Rosabelle Avenue scheme and the two terraces each of 2 three bedroom and 1 four bedroom houses were roofed in by the end of the year.

No Closing Orders or Demolition Orders were made but four Closing Orders were rescinded as the owners had renovated the properties bringing them up to full Housing Act Standards.

Approval was given to 11 applications for Standard Grants and £2,335 was paid to owners of 11 properties for works completed, five of which were for the higher limit.

A greater percentage of applications were for tenanted houses than in previous years (36% this year compared with 25% last year). The Council has continued its policy of not considering the implementation of Discretionary Grants.

Once again on the appointed day, no Gypsies were found in the district and it is rarely that any are seen passing through the area.

9. New Buildings. 136 plans for new buildings or alterations were deposited only one of which was disapproved. This is a similar number of applications to last year. The general understanding of the Building Regulations was noticeable. Two applications for Relaxation of the Regulations were received one was permitted and one refused by the Council. No relaxation requiring the consent of the Ministry were received.

One interesting new development approved and carried out by the end of the year was for a Coin Operated Laundry and Dry Cleaners.

University development has been slower but the first of the apartment blocks in Wivenhoe has commenced - blocks number 5 and 6 (1-4 being within the Colchester Borough). Blocks 5 and 6, however, are taller than the previous ones and I am told that when completed they will be equal to the highest building of this type of construction in Europe and the highest in Gt. Britain.

10. Roads. The Private Street Works programme has continued although Tower Road (completed last year) has not been completed financially and final apportionments have not been made. Queens Road has been completed and final accounts are being checked. The preliminary survey of Park Road has been carried out and approved by the Council. Detailed plans are now being prepared together with the preliminary survey for Rebow Road.

The Car Park has been well used particularly during December when the "NO WAITING" area in the southern part of the town became operative with the fixing of the approved signs and painting of the double yellow lines.

The roads and sewers in Phase I Queens Road Estate (part of Valley Road) have been adopted by the Council.

Further house numbering was carried out on the 168 properties in Anchor Hill, High Street and Belle Vue Road.

Once again extensions to a conversion of existing street lighting have taken place and with the inception of British Standard Time, street lighting has been throughout the night as the required parts to modify the time switches were not available for dusk to midnight and 6.30 a.m. to dawn operation.

Essex County Council have provided concrete bins with internal wire baskets for the collection of litter along the A.133 and B.1027 and have agreed to pay the Council for a weekly, disposal of the litter. This service has been fitted into the normal refuse collection round and is proving satisfactory. The County Council have also agreed to pay the Council for the maintenance of their roadside verges in the High Street and at the Colchester/Heath Road junction.

For the first time the Council included in last years estimate monies for the purchasing and planting of trees along the roadside and 34 trees were planted during March and a further 28 were planted at the end of the year which were included in the 1968/69 estimates.

British Rail carried out repair works to the brick steps and wall at the end of Clifton Terrace leading to the railway station. The Council cleared the surface water drain under the railway by the sub-way on footpath No.8 which has been blocked for years. Now the path, previously flooded, can be used in most weathers. The surface water drain in St. Johns Road was cleared of coke and other rubbish, and a manhole was constructed to assist in future maintenance; also, with the financial co-operation of Messrs. J.W. Cook Ltd., the lower end of the road was surfaced in tarmac. Another manhole was constructed on a surface water sewer, this time in Quay Street and a blockage in the brick and tile drain was cleared.

The town ditch from the rear of the fire station to and including the culvert under Queens Road was cleared and deepened which has given better flows in time of excessive rain as the level of flow has been dropped up to 12 inches in some places. The dry weather flow is now satisfactorily taken at invert levels all the culverts. The long awaited approval from the County Council was given for the erection

of bus shelters from Colchester Road (University, East Lodge) to Station Road in September and at the end of the year erection was commenced and two shelters were in use.

11. Noise Abatement. Unsatisfactory progress has been made concerning the refrigeration machinery (reported last year) even though every assistance has been given by the Council. Further works have been carried out by the owner but without full appreciation of the complications of noise transference and absorption. Further noise level readings were taken by me and forwarded to the owner who finally employed a Consultant whose independent readings confirmed mine. At the end of the year their Consultant's report was awaited and expected to be presented at the January Public Health Committee.

12. Food. Major renovations and alterations of a former house have converted it into a Restaurant which is expected to open in January 1969.

A complaint concerning the taste of sliced veal, ham and egg pie was investigated including an analysis by the Public Health Laboratory, Ipswich, of the purchased pie and the remainder of the pie remaining at the shop. No objection could be substantiated by the Laboratory.

2 cwts, 56lbs of raw meat which was unfit for consumption due to decomposition and the following tinned foods were unfit due to blown, damaged or rusted tins - 4lbs stewed steak, 40lbs apricots, and 10lbs tomatoes. All these foods were surrendered to the Council and were properly disposed.

13. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act. The incidence of rodent infestation was similar to last year. The number of wasp nests destroyed dropped sharply from last years total of 23 to 3 this year. Three swarms of bees were removed - a similar number to previous years. An innovation in pest control this year has been four treatments for cockroaches (following the closure of a bakehouse) and three treatments for fleas in domestic premises.

RODENT CONTROL

Properties inspected	28	Infested properties treated	25
Rat infestation found	25	Block control treatment	1
Mice infestation found	-	Notices served	NIL

14. Houses in Multiple Occupation. The conversion of a house into several units of student accommodation during the year made the adoption by the Council in co-operation with the County Council's Fire Service of standards for equipment and management for this type of premises. Following this work the Council requested a survey of all premises in multiple occupation within the Urban District, which will be carried out during 1969.

Analysis of Inspection

Allotments	16	Private Street Works	87
Bus Shelters	33	Public Conveniences	42
Car Park	19	Public Footpaths	26
Cemetery	74	Public Hall	101
Churchyard	33	Public Health Act...	360
Council House Maintenance	925	Quay Shelter and Seats	37
Drain Tests	206	Refuse	347
Factories	31	Roads	688
Food Premises	41	Salvage	33
Highways Act	45	Sewers	440
Houseboats	6	Street Cleansing	110
Housing Act	155	Street Lighting	270
Housing Applications	4	Town & C.P. Acts	359
Miscellaneous	68	Town Ditch	60
Moveable Dwellings	6	Water	30
New Buildings	1,713	Pest Act	25
Noise Abatement	35	Petroleum Acts	27
Offices S.R.P.	96	Playing Fields	184
Overcrowding	1		
Outworkers	16		

Notices Served

Public Health Act	(informal)	Served	23
" " "	"	Abated	19
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act	(informal)	Served	8
" " " " "	"	Abated	8
Highways Act	(formal)	Served	1
" "	"	Abated	2
" "	(informal)	Served	1
" "	"	Abated	1

